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PRESENT-DAY SUPERSTITIONS AT LA HARPE, ILL., SURVIVALS IN A COMMUNITY OF ENGLISH ORIGIN.

BY ETHEL TODD NORLIN.

THE evidence of belief and custom here offered were collected by me during the months from June to September, 1915, at La Harpe, a village in the northeastern corner of Hancock County, western Illinois, some twenty miles southeast of Burlington, Io. I have arranged the material in five groups, according as it deals with (1) death, (2) disease, (3) marriage, (4) weather, or (5) miscellaneous beliefs.

My sources are the following persons in and near La Harpe, the initial at the left being the abbreviated form adopted for the various informants. The persons consulted were those who are generally held to remember most about old practices.

- Cb . . . Campbell. Age (?). Born in Morgan County, Illinois. Lived in and near La Harpe nearly fifty years. Of English descent.
 C . . . Coulson. Age 40. Born at La Harpe. Of English descent.
 W. . . . Conwell Warren. Age 45. Born near La Harpe. Of English descent.
 B . . . Bushby. Age 35. Born in La Harpe. Of English descent.
 R . . . Robinson. Age 58. Born near La Harpe. Of Scottish descent.
 Ws . . . Woodside. Age 65. Lived in and near La Harpe 65 years. English descent, and probably some Irish.
 Wn . . . Warner. Age 65. Born in Illinois. Lived in La Harpe 15 years. Of Dutch and French origin.
 R₂ . . . Robertson. Born in Illinois. Of Scottish descent.
 S . . . Sea. Age 24. Born in La Harpe. Of Scottish and English origin.
 T . . . Mrs. Dawson Todd. •Age 53. Born near La Harpe. Of English descent, with some German blood.
 Tb . . . Blanche Todd. Age 11. Daughter of T.

My principal sources are Mr. Coulson, Mr. Robinson, Mrs. Todd, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Kilgore. Of these, Mr. Warner is not of English descent. The larger portion of the remaining beliefs and practices were told by Mr. Bushby, Mr. Woodside, Mr. Sea, and Mr. Campbell.

DEATH.

1. It is considered bad luck to step on a grave. (B, C, Cb, Wn, S, R₂.)¹

2. Counting the carriages in a funeral-procession will bring extremely bad luck. (Ws, R, B, K, R₂.)

¹ See list of abbreviations above.

3. It is bad luck to cross the road in front of a funeral-procession. (C, Ws, K.)

4. It is bad luck to cross in between the carriages of a funeral-procession. (C.)

5. It is considered bad luck to meet a funeral-procession. (Cb, R, Ws, B.) Often people meeting a funeral-procession will stop and turn in the opposite direction, so as to ward off the evil sure to follow if they had continued on their way.

6. If a funeral-procession is stopped in front of your house, a death will result within a year. (W, C, R.)

7. If, while a coffin is being carried in or out of a church, it bumps a seat or pew, some one in that row will die soon. (Tb, C.)

8. It is a sure sign of death to some one in a room or a building, if a bird flies *in* at the window. (C, W, Cb, R, K, Wn, S, R₂, T.) One of my friends said that a dove tried to get in at the window for three days before her grandfather died, some years ago. The same thing happened again last summer just before the death of her grandmother.

(a) If a bird flies *against* a window or a door and kills itself, a death will occur soon within that house or building. (C.) Miss Coulson said her grandmother died at the very hour that a bird flew against their door and killed itself.

(b) If a bird sits on a window-sill, there will be a death in that house. (K.)

9. It is a sure sign of death to twirl a chair. (Ws.)

10. Never raise an umbrella in the house, for surely some one in the house will die within a year. (R, T.)

11. Dream of a dead person, and you will soon receive a letter or hear of the living. (K, B, Wn, S, T.) Similarly

12. If you dream of a death, you will hear of a wedding. (Wn, R, Ws, K.)

13. If you hear a buzzing ring in your ear, you will soon hear of a death. (Ws, W, R, K, T.)

14. It is also a sign that you will hear of a death if, while baking bread, it cracks across the top. (R, B.)

15. If your apron comes untied and drops, and you step over it, there will be a death soon. (R.)

16. Sign of death to carry a *hoe* through the house. (K, R, W, Cb, C, S, T.)

(a) Others say *shovel*. (B.)

(b) Still others say *spade*. (Ws, T.)

17. If there is one funeral, there will be two more. (W, Cb, C, T.)

(a) If a body is shipped into town, there will be two more deaths in the town. (C.)

18. If a man dies on Good Friday, he is supposed to be a good man, and will go to heaven. (Tb.)

19. If a corpse is started from a house, then has to be brought back, it is a sign of an approaching death in the house. (Ws.)

20. It is bad luck to go over the same road with a second corpse from the same family. (K.)

21. It is a sign of death to hear a dog howl. (Wn, R, S, Rs, T.)

22. It is a sign of death to dream of white horses. (R.)

23. If you go in one door and out another, there will be a death in the house. (R.)

24. It is a sign of death to break a looking-glass. (Wn.)

25. Sneeze before breakfast, and you will hear of a death before the week is over. (S.)

26. If there is a green Christmas, there will be a full graveyard. (T.) Oftentimes any odd noises are taken as signs of approaching death.

DISEASE.

- I. Mole on your neck,
You will have money by the peck.
(C, W, B, R, Wn, S, K, T.)

2. Mole on your neck signifies you'll be hanged some day. (C, Ws.)

3. Mole on your arm,
You'll have money by the farm.
(S.)

4. If you wish to cure rheumatism, carry a potato in your pocket, which will draw the water from your joints. (R.)

5. Always carry buckeyes in your pocket if you wish to ward off rheumatism. (Ws, R, K, B, W, Cb, C, T.)

6. A piece of steel in one shoe, and brass in the other shoe, will cure rheumatism. (R.)

7. Put live wool in your shoe to cure rheumatism. (Cb, S.)

8. Sleep with a dog at the foot of your bed, and the animal will draw out your rheumatism. (K.)

9. Wear a brass ring on your finger, and your rheumatism will be cured. (B, Ws, K, W, Cb.)

(a) Some say the brass ring must be worn on the little finger. (Wn.)

10. Sulphur placed in the heels of your shoes will cure rheumatism. (W, Cb.)

11. A person may get rid of his warts by washing his hands in hollow-stump water. (Ws, B.) Or

12. He may steal a dish-rag and hide it under a stone, and the warts will mysteriously disappear. (Ws, B, T.)

(a) Or, steal a dish-rag, rub it over the warts, and place the rag under the eaves or some place where it will soon decay, then the warts will disappear. (R, S.)

13. Some say, take a potato with as many eyes as you have warts, and hide it under the ground where the rain will drip on it from the house-eaves, and your warts will disappear. (R.)

14. If a person counts the warts on another person, he will get that person's warts. (R, Wn, T.)

15. Take a stick and cut as many notches as you have warts, and throw it over your left shoulder: whoever picks up the stick will get your warts. (R.)

16. If you kill a toad or frog, you will have warts. (B, R, T.)

17. You may cure warts by stealing raw beef-steak and burying it in the light of the moon. (K.)

18. You may cure your warts by going to a neighbor's home when the household is absent, and stealing a slice of meat (which you must cut off the original piece), then bury it under the front door, being careful not to glance backward while leaving the place. (Ws.)

19. To get rid of warts, rub corn over the warts, then feed the corn to a chicken: thus the chicken will get your warts. (R.)

20. You may cure warts by tying strings around them, then throwing the strings away. (W.)

21. Take anything and rub on the warts, then place the object in a paper sack and throw it away: the person picking up the sack will get the warts. (W.)

22. Tie as many knots in a string as you have warts, and bury the string, and your warts will disappear. (Cb, R.)

23. Warts may be cured by taking shavings off each finger and wrapping them in a paper. (Cb.)

24. You may get rid of your warts by selling them for a penny apiece. (C, Wn.)

(a) Some say sell them for money. (S.)

25. Take a string and measure your warts, then tie knots for each measurement and place the string in a vest-pocket, and the warts will disappear. (Ws.)

26. Pick up an old bone of some animal, rub it on your warts, and replace the bone in its former position, and the warts will disappear. (K, Ws.)

27. Spit on warts to get rid of them. (K, T.)

28. Rub warts with broom-straw. Bury the straw; and when it decays, the warts will disappear. (Wn.)

29. To cure a goitre, draw the hand of a corpse three times across your throat. (R, W, C, Wn, S.)

30. Wear a string of "Job's tears" around your neck to cure a goitre. (S, R, Wn.)

31. Amber beads worn by the patient will cure a big neck. (K, Wn, T.)
32. Amber beads worn will cure a sore throat. (C.)
33. Cure a sore throat by wearing a worn stocking around the neck. (Wn, S, R, B, T.)
34. Tying a red string around the neck will stop nose-bleed. (K, Cb.)
35. Tie a string soaked in turpentine around the waist, and it will cure lumbago. (W, Cb.)
36. If you have a birth-mark, it may be cured by placing a hand of a corpse on it. (Cb.)
37. Some asafoetida hung in a bag around the neck will ward off scarlet-fever and other contagious diseases. (R₂, Wn, K, Ws, R, B, C, S, T.)
38. Cure nose-bleed by tying a silk thread around the neck or by putting a silver spoon down the patient's back. (C.)
- (a) Others say, put a key down the back. (Rs.)
39. Bending the little finger as tightly as possible will cure nose-bleed. (S.)
40. For stopping hiccoughs, look real hard into the middle of a glass of water. (C.)
41. Hiccoughs may be stopped by counting one hundred with mouth closed. (S.)
42. To cure a sty, rub it with a gold ring or touch it with a point of steel. (C.)
43. Cure a sty by rubbing it with a silver dollar. (R.)

MARRIAGE.

1. Persons married on a cloudy day will have a cloudy life. Similarly, those married on a sunshiny day will have a happy life. (R₂, S, Wn, Ws, R, T, K, B, C.)
- (a) Happy is the bride the sun shines on. (C, R, K, Ws, B, T, Wn, S.)
2. Whoever catches the bride's bouquet will be the next bride. (S, Wn, R₂, K, T, B, W, C.)
3. Some people will only get married when the moon is growing fuller. Then they will prosper. (Ws.)
4. Others will only get married when the hands of the clock are moving upward. (R.)
5. Swallow a four-leaved clover, and you will marry the first man you meet. (R.)
- (a) Others say, put a four-leaved clover in your shoe, and you will marry the first man you meet. (K, B, C, Wn, S, T.)
6. If a bride stumbles as she enters her home, she will have many

ups and downs. (Wn, S.) (On account of this superstition, the husband often carries his bride across the threshold.)

7. If a bride wishes to be prosperous throughout life, she must wear something old, something new, something blue, and something gold. (K, Ws.)

(a) Others say "borrowed" and "blue" instead of "blue" and "gold." (R, B, C, Wn, S, R₂.)

8. If you don't wear out or dispose of your wedding outfit, you will have bad luck. (B, W.)

(a) Others say you will never be rich. (C.)

9. Change the name, but not the letter,
Is to change for worse instead of better.

(Wn, S, R₂, W, Ws, R, K, B, T.)

10. It is bad luck to wear black at a wedding. (S, Wn, C.)

11. It is bad luck to be married in black. (S, Wn.)

12. If a bride wears some person's garter, that person will marry soon if she wears it after the bride does. (C, Wn.)

13. In a wedding or birthday cake, the person getting the penny will have riches, the one getting the ring will be the next bride, and the one receiving a bodkin or a thimble will be an old maid. (Ws, C, Wn, S, R₂.)

14. When sleeping for the first time in a strange bed, name the four corners of the bed, and the first corner seen in the morning will tell whom you will marry. (Wn, Ws, K, R, S, B, T.)

15. If you sit on a table, you will not be married for seven years. (Wn, Ws.)

(a) Others say it is a sign you wish to be married. (C, R, T.)

16. Significance of wedding-days:

Monday for health,
Tuesday for wealth,
Wednesday the best day of all.
Thursday for losses,
Friday for crosses,
Saturday no day at all.

(C, B, Wn, S, T.)

17. Place a wish-bone over your door, and you will marry the first man entering and shaking hands. (R, S, W, T.)

18. Count a hundred white horses, and the first man with whom you shake hands after counting the hundredth horse you will marry. (Wn.)

19. While walking, if you cut the corner of a sidewalk, you will be an old maid. (Wn.)

(a) Others say it is a sign of a wedding. (T.)

WEATHER AND WATER.

15. Friday is always the fairest or foulest of the week. (R, K, C, B, S, Wn, R₂.)

16. The way the wind blows on the first day of each season will be the direction in which it will blow the majority of the days of that season. (C.)

17. The date of the first snow foretells the number of snowstorms for the winter; that is, if it snows for the first time on Nov. 17, there will be 17 snows. (R, B, R₂, S, T.)

18. When the new moon lies far south during the winter, we shall have warm weather. (C, Wn.)

19. In summer, if the moon is in such a position that a powder-horn can be hung on it, there will be rainy weather; if *vice versâ*, there will be dry weather. (S, C, R, K, B, Wn, T.)

20. It is a sure sign of rain for a spider to come down in front of you. (Ws, Tb.)

21. I found a so-called water-witch, — a man who claimed he could tell the best places to dig wells. He took a forked willow stick, grasped a prong in each hand, and walked within the area where a well was desired. The free end of the stick would turn and point to a suitable location. This man is sent for by people miles in the country who wish to locate a well. (B, R, K.)

(a) Mr. Woodside said to use a peach-tree twig instead of willow. He also said to take a hazel-switch and give it a switch, and the number of bobs will tell the number of feet necessary to dig for a well.

MISCELLANEOUS BELIEFS.

1. It is very unlucky to see the new moon over your left shoulder, but lucky to see it over your right shoulder. (Wn, K, B.)

(a) Some say you must throw salt over your left shoulder to counteract the evil. (C, Ws.)

2. To see the new moon over your left shoulder is a sign that you are going to get a fall. (R.)

3. See the new moon over your left shoulder, make a wish, and it will come true. (R.)

4. See the new moon through brush or a glass, you will have bad luck as long as it lasts. (C, K.)

5. See the new moon over your left shoulder through brush will bring you bad luck. (S.)

6. It is good luck to face the new moon. (B.)

7. If you see the new moon straight in front of you, you will fall down. (C.)

8. Meat killed in the light of the moon will swell in the pot, but will shrink if killed in the dark of the moon. (C, Cb, T, W, S.)

9. Anything that grows under ground should be planted in the dark of the moon, and *vice versâ*. (S, R₂, Wn, B, Ws, C, K, R, T.)

10. Where sunflowers grow, poor people live. (K.)

11. It is bad luck to kill a spider. (W, R₂)
12. Kill a spider, and your cow will have bloody milk. (R.)
13. It is bad luck to kill a spider before breakfast. (C.)
14. If a spider comes down on a web in front of you, you will have company. (R.)
15. If a spider comes down on a web in front of you, you will receive a letter. (C, K.)
16. Kill a frog, and your cow will have bloody milk. (C, T.)
17. Others say kill a toad, and your cow will have bloody milk, (Ws, C, B, K, T.)
18. If you do not kill the first snake you see in the spring, your enemies will get the best of you. (R, K, C, Ws, T.)
19. Pick the first fern and kill the first snake,
 You will accomplish all you undertake.

(S.)
20. You will soon have company if an old rooster crows in front of your door. (K, B, R, T, Ws.)
21. Two roosters or two hens fighting are a sign of two men or two women coming. (C, Ws, K, T.)
22. It is a bad omen to hear a dog howl at the moon. (Wn, R, S, C, Cb, T.)
23. If you purchase a horse and change its name, you will have bad luck with it. (W.)
24. Similar to the fetich is the custom of keeping the left hind-foot of a rabbit carefully wrapped in silk or oil-skin. If the foot is lost or taken away, the owner will have very bad luck. Bits of colored glass are often carried with the rabbit's foot as additional charms. (Cb, S, Wn, R₂.)
25. If you purchase a dog and want him to be contented with his new home, measure his tail and put the measurement under the front doorstep. (T, C.)
26. It is bad luck to kill a cat. (Wn, S, R₂, B, Ws, K, Cb, T.)
27. For every white horse there is a red-haired person. (R₂.)
28. See a white horse, look around, and you will see a red-haired person. (Wn, K, B, C.)
29. Stamp (by quickly placing the right thumb on the tongue, then on the palm of the left hand, and then hitting the left palm with the right fist) every white horse seen. When one hundred have been stamped, you will find something. (S, C, Ws, R₂.)
- (a) White mules count the same as three white horses. (Tb.)
30. It is bad luck for a black cat to run across your path. (R₂, R, K, S.)
31. Eat crusts, and your hair will be curly. (K, C, R₂.)

32. You will have a beautiful head of hair by placing some of your hair beneath a rock. (R.)

33. If your right ear burns, it is for spite; if the left ear burns, it is for love. (Wn, S, T.)

34. If your nose itches, you are going to have company or kiss a fool. (R, K, Ws, C, S, R₂, W, T.)

35. A girl's freckles will disappear if she will go barefooted in the dew. (R.)

36. Others say a girl's freckles will disappear if she will wash her face in dew. (Wn, S, T.)

37. If your palm itches, it is a sign that you are going to get money. (R, B, R₂, S.)

38. If your right hand itches, it is a sign that you are going to shake hands with a stranger; if the left hand itches, you will have money. (Wn, S, T.)

39. Trim your nails on —

Monday for news,
Tuesday for shoes,
Wednesday for health,
Thursday for wealth,
Friday for woe,
Saturday, a journey to go.

(C.)

40. If you dress one foot at a time, you will be disappointed. (K.)

41. For good luck, always put the right shoe on first. (C.)

42. It is very unlucky to put a shoe on the wrong foot. (R.)

43. If your foot itches, you are going to walk on strange land. (B, R, S.)

44. If you put the left foot out of bed first, you will have bad luck; but the right foot placed out first will bring you good luck. (B.)

45. Sing before breakfast, cry before night.

46. A large hazel-nut crop is a sign of many births for that year. (S.)

47. In time of war there are more males than females born. (R₂, S.)

48. Offer a child a dollar and a bottle; the one it takes will show whether it will be a money-maker or a drunkard. (R, T.)

(a) Others say, offer a book with the dollar and bottle, and, if it accepts the book, it will be educated. (W.)

49. If you let a baby see itself in the looking-glass before it is three months old, it will die. (Wn, T.)

50. If you cut the finger-nails of a child before it is a month old, it will steal. (Wn.)

51. Make a rhyme, and you will see your beau before half-past nine. (C.)

52. Some say to count the letters in the rhyme you make, then start at the first of the alphabet and count the same number of letters, the last of which will give the initial of your future husband. (R₂.)

53. Stub your toe, kiss your thumb, and see your beau. (C, S, Wn.)

54. If your apron comes untied, your best beau is thinking of you. (T.)

55. If you entirely burn a match, it is a sign that your lover still loves you. (R₂.)

56. Place a four-leaved clover in your shoe, and you will get a buggy-ride or a kiss. (Wn, S.)

57. Where cobwebs grow,
Beaus won't go.

(B, R, K, C, S, R₂ Wn, T.)

Where sunflowers grow
Beaus never go.

(C, Cb, T, B.)

58. A sunflower is a sign of a girl for sale. (Cb.)

59. It is bad luck to start a journey or cut out a dress on Friday. (R, Cb, C, S, Wn, T, B.)

60. Cut out a garment on Friday; and if you do not finish it that week, you will never live to wear it. (Wn, S, R.)

61. You must not cut out a dress on Saturday, or you will not finish it unless you do it the same day. (C.)

62. If you have company on Monday or Sunday, you will have company every day in the week. (R, B, T.)

63. If you go some place on Monday, you will go some place every day of the week. (R, S, Wn.)

64. If you put anything on wrong side out, you must keep it on, or else you will have bad luck. (R₂, S, W, R, Wn, Ws, B, K, Cb, T.)

(a) Some say you may change it behind a door. (C.)

65. It is a sign that the article of dress is not paid for if one wears the garment containing basting-threads. (T, B, Wn, S, R₂, W, R, C, Cb, K, Ws.)

66. It is considered unlucky for one to wear or possess opals unless one is born in October; then it is good luck, for opals are October's birth-stones. (C, K, R, B, Wn, S, R₂.)

67. If shoes squeak, it is a sign that they are not paid for. (T.)

68. Wear a shoe out on the ball, you will spend all; wear a shoe out on the toe, you will spend as you go; wear a shoe out on the side, you will be a rich man's bride. (Wn.)

69. If you leave a dirty spot when sweeping, you will have company. (Ws.)

70. If you drop a dish-cloth, you will have company. (S, Wn, C, Cb, B, Ws, T.)

(a) Others say, to drop a dish-cloth is a sign that some one is coming dirtier than you. (T.)

(b) Others say it is a sign that some one is coming cleaner than you. (Wn, S.)

71. Dropping a fork is a sign that a man is coming; dropping a knife foretells the coming of a woman. (Ws, R, K, B, Cb, C, T.)

(a) From the direction in which the fork or knife points, the company will come. (B.)

72. If you do not go out the same door by which you entered, you'll bring company. (B, Cb, R, K, Ws, C, T.)

(a) Some say you will never come back again. (Wn, S.)

73. It is unlucky to move a broom or a cat from one house to another. (W, K, R, Ws, B, R₂.)

74. When moving into a new home, take a bag of salt and a broom for good luck. (C.)

75. If you break one dish, you will break three, all told. (S, C, Ws, B, R, K, T.)

76. It is extremely bad luck to raise an umbrella in the house. (C, B, T.)

77. Others say you will be disappointed if you raise an umbrella in the house. (K.)

78. If you spill salt, you must eat some, throw some over your left shoulder, and burn some, or you will have a quarrel. (R, C.)

79. Some say if you spill salt, you must burn some to avoid a quarrel. (Wn, S, K.)

80. Bubbles on coffee are a sign of money, but you must drink the bubbles to get the money. (S, R, B, T.)

81. Drop a spoon, sign of a letter coming. (R.)

82. Others say, drop a spoon, sign of a child coming. (T.)

83. To remove ants from your kitchen, carry one to a neighbor's house, and the others will follow. (Wn.)

84. It is good luck for a black cat to come to your house. (Wn.)

85. Commonly children, on observing the first star seen in the evening, repeat, —

“Star bright, star light,
First star I see to-night,
I wish I may, I wish I might,
Have the wish I wish to-night.”

(Cb, W, Ws, K, R, T, B, R₂.)

(a) They must not look at that star again during the night, or the charm will be broken. (R.)

86. Count the first ten stars that come out for ten nights, and you can have anything you wish for. (C, S.)

87. When sleeping for the first time in a strange bed, make a wish

in each of the four corners of the room or at the four bed-posts, and the first corner seen in the morning will tell you which wish will materialize. (T, B.)

88. Throw kisses at the first star you see at night, and make a wish, and it will come true. (R.)

89. Two girls sleeping together may make their wishes come true by tying their big toes together. (Wn.)

90. Make a wish and swallow a four-leaved clover, and the wish will come true. (R.)

91. People saying the same thing at the same time touch thumbs, make a wish, and name some author. (R₂, Wn, S, T.)

92. Dream of seeing a snake, if you try to kill it and it gets away, you are going to be attacked by an enemy; if you kill it, you will be a conqueror. (R₂, K, W, Cb, C.)

93. Dream over a piece of wedding-cake, and the dream will come true. (C, R, K, T.)

94. Any dreams you may have when sleeping in a strange house for the first time, will come true. (R, T, Wn.)

95. I often placed a four-leaved clover in my shoe when I was a child, believing that good luck would accompany me as long as the clover remained in my shoe.

96. It is considered good luck to find a horse-shoe. (B, C, Ws, R, Wn, K, S, T.)

97. If there is one fire, there will be two more. (B, C, Ws, R, S, K.)

98. If you start away and have to come back, you will have bad luck. (Ws, T.)

99. If you start away and have to come back, you must sit down in a chair before starting on, or you will have bad luck. (R, K, C, Wn, S.)

(a) Some say you must count ten while sitting in the chair. (C, Wn, S.)

100. If you stumble, it is bad luck unless you go back and walk over again. (W.)

101. Do not give any one a sharp-pointed gift, for it will cut your friendship in two. (Wn, Ws, R, B, W, C, K, T.)

(a) A penny accompanying the sharp-pointed gift will counteract evil. (C, K.)

102. When two people are walking along the street, if an object comes between them, they will be enemies unless they say, "bread and butter." (R₂, S, Wn, R, C, Cb.)

103.

See a pin, pick it up,
All that day you'll have good luck.
See a pin, let it lay,
Bad luck follows all that day.

(C, T, Wn, S, Ws, R, W, K.)

104. See a pin, let it lie,
You'll want a pin before you die.
(Ws.)

105. It is good luck to pick up a pin with the point towards you, and bad luck if the head is towards you. (Ws, R, K, C, B, T.)

106. You will get a ride if you pick up a pin sideways. (R, C.)

107. Some say you will get a kiss if you pick up a pin sideways.
(Wn.)

108. It is bad luck to go under a ladder. (S, R₂, B, C.)

109. It is bad luck to twirl a chair or an umbrella. (C.)

110. If you do not wish the teacher to see you whisper, knock on a tree on your way to school. (Tb.)

111. Knock on wood to counteract evil. (R₂, B, T.)

112. If a person gets out of bed on the side opposite the one he got in on, he will be cross all day. (Wn, R, S, C, B, T.)

113. Hang a hairpin on a rusty nail for good luck. (C, R₂.)

114. If you find a hairpin, it is a sign that you will soon have a new friend. (K, C.)

115. A scratch is a sign of a ride to come. (R₂, C.)

116. If you have one unexpected guest, you will have two more.
(C.)

117. A whistling girl and a crowing hen will soon come to some bad end. (T, Wn, Ws, S, B.)

118. It is bad luck to break a looking-glass. (B, K, T.)

(a) Some say it is bad luck for seven years. (R₂.)

119. It is good luck to find a four-leaved clover. (S, R₂, B, T.)

120. If the initials of your name spell a word, it is a sign that you are going to be rich. (R₂, T, R.)

121. A large hazel-nut crop is a sign of a cold winter. (T.)

122. Put a horseshoe with ends up over a door for good luck: if the ends are down, the luck will run out. (Wn.)

123. The direction a burning match points indicates the direction from which company will come. (Wn.)